

Community and Conference Announcements

COMMUNITY

Christmas Giving Project: It's time to stop by the Citizens State Bank in Goessel and pick a tag or two off the Christmas Giving Tree to help make Christmas happen for a child in our community. Please wrap your gift(s) and return to the bank by Monday, December 17. The Goessel Ministerial Alliance will deliver the gifts in time for Christmas. Thank you for sharing the spirit of Christmas with families in our community!

You are invited to a Community Christmas Vesper Service sponsored by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance on Sunday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. We will enjoy a variety of special music numbers by musical groups from the various churches in our community and a time of Christmas carol singing for everyone. Following the music we will have a time of fellowship with refreshments in the fellowship hall. Please bring Christmas goodies to share, if you are able. Be thinking of a friend or neighbor you want to bring to help us ring in the Christmas season!

Consider the Store at Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum as one of your Places to Shop this season. Most items are discounted 10-50% through Dec. 22. You'll find books on Mennonite history, Kansas history, agricultural history, cookbooks, children's books, plush finger puppets, Quail Creek Copper decorative metal items, locally made reproduction vintage aprons, and more. The store is also a source for Glen Ediger's new book, *Leave No Threshing Stone Unturned*. Special store hours through December 22: Noon-4 p.m., Thursday through Saturday.

Goessel Blood Mobile: Please note that the blood mobile is at Goessel Church on Dec. 17. With Hurricane Sandy, the need for blood is very high and Red Cross counts on good participation at drives to help with this. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule a time to donate in the afternoon on Dec. 17 at Goessel Church. You can also volunteer to work or bring cookies. Thanks for sharing the gift of life!!

The McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews will give a Christmas Concert at 4pm TODAY, Dec. 2 in the McPherson Church of the Brethren on the McPherson College Campus at 200 N. Carrie Street. Concert is free or bring some canned goods for the McPherson County Food Bank.

Krista Detor, with Arbutus Cunningham & Friends: Join us for an afternoon on the prairie at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains on Sunday, December 9 at 4:30 p.m to enjoy a new show from Krista Detor, blending masterfully written and performed songs with the poetry and acting of a talented troupe. Krista's holiday-themed Winter Songs collection will be featured. Appetizers and desserts will be available for purchase (\$3 each) at intermission. Please call [620-327-8127](tel:620-327-8127) or email arboretum@hesston.edu to reserve tickets (\$20 adults/\$10 children).

Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum – Isaias McCaffery, Independence Community College, will present “Rural Kansas Women at Work (1850-1900),” Dec. 9, 3:30 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium

**THIRD WAY MEDIA: radio program,
*Shaping Families***

December 1 – Brian McLaren on Faith. What are your children learning about church and faith through your actions, comments and practice? Brian McLaren, an author and speaker, is the guest on *Shaping Families* this week.

December 8 – Surviving Stroke What do you do if your mom or dad has a stroke—at the early age of 72? Marcella and her mother share both sides of their experience and witness to their faith as they moved forward.

Listen on KBCU 88.1 FM North Newton, KS Fri 4:00pm or visit www.ShapingFamilies.com the weekend the program airs to download a podcast or the transcript.

